NAYS-48

Alexander Graham McConnell Avotte Grasslev Moran Murkowski Blunt. Heller Pan1 Boozman Portman Hoeven Hutchison Brown (MA) Risch Burr Inhofe Roberts Chambliss Isakson Rubio Coats Johanns Sanders Johnson (WI) Coburn Sessions Cochran Kirk Shelby Corker Kyl Snowe Cornyn Lee Thune Lugar Toomey Crapo Manchin Vitter DeMint Enzi McCain Wicker

NOT VOTING-2

Kerry Kohl

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 50, the nays are 48. Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this motion, the motion is rejected.

The Republican leader.

TEMPORARY TAX HOLIDAY AND GOVERNMENT REDUCTION ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I move to proceed to S. 1931.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion is now pending.

The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Madam President, this will be the last vote of this week. We will have a couple of votes on Monday night. I will announce later as much of the schedule as I am able to do. Right now, I can't do that, but I will before the day is out.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 2 minutes of debate equally divided.

The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, what is about to happen is we are going to be taking a vote on a measure that got 20 votes last week—this same vote. I don't know what the vote will be today, obviously, but this is an exercise in futility to vote on this again.

What we should do is cut the payroll tax in half for American workers. That is what we have been trying to do. I hope we can continue to work together, but we should move beyond this measure that got 20 votes last week and cut the payroll tax in half for 160 million American workers. We should do that and give people the peace of mind and dollars in their pockets they would not have otherwise.

I urge a "no" vote on this motion, and I hope we can continue to work together to support the American worker.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who vields time?

Time is yielded back.

Under the previous order, the question is on agreeing to the motion to proceed to S. 1931, which is subject to a 60-affirmative-vote threshold.

Mr. CORKER. I ask for the yeas and navs.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the
Senator from Massachusetts (Mr.

Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Kerry) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 22, nays 76, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 225 Leg.]

YEAS-22

Ayotte Heller Portman Barrasso Hoeven Risch Brown (MA) Hutchison Rubio Cochran Lugar Snowe McCain Collins Vitter Crapo McConnell Wicker Murkowski Enzi Grasslev Paul

NAYS-76

Franken Akaka Moran Alexander Gillibrand Murray Baucus Graham Nelson (NE) Begich Hagan Nelson (FL) Bennet Harkin Pryor Bingaman Hatch Reed Blumenthal Inhofe Reid Blunt Inouye Roberts Boozman Isakson Rockefeller Boxer Johanns Sanders Brown (OH) Johnson (SD) Schumer Burr Johnson (WI) Sessions Cantwell Kirk Shaheen Klobuchar Cardin Shelby Carper Kv1 Landrieu Casey Stabenow Tester Chambliss Lautenberg Coats Leahy Thune Coburn Lee Toomey Conrad Levin Udall (CO) Lieberman Coons Udall (NM) Manchin Corker Warner Cornyn McCaskill Webb DeMint Menendez Whitehouse Durbin Merkley Wyden Feinstein Mikulski

NOT VOTING—2

Kerry Kohl

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 22 and the nays are 76. Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this motion, the motion is rejected.

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent for the votes on the motion to proceed to the Casey Middle Class Tax Cut Act of 2011, S. 1944, and the motion to proceed to the Temporary Tax Holiday and Government Reduction Act, S. 1931. If I were able to attend today's session, I would have supported the motion to proceed to the Casey Middle Class Tax Cut Act of 2011, S. 1944, and opposed the motion to proceed to the Temporary Tax Holiday and Government Reduction Act, S. 1931.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent we proceed now to a period for morning business, with Senators allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes each until 6 o'clock this evening.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator from Vermont.

(The remarks of Mr. SANDERS pertaining to the introduction of S.J. Res. 33 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

MEDICARE

Mr. NELSON of Florida. I wish to thank the Senator from Tennessee for his graciousness to make a very few brief remarks.

I wish to call to the attention of the Senate that there are some good things that are happening in Medicare. In the health care bill—which was a very complicated piece of legislation—there are a lot of good things. There were some things that are implemented over time, that if mistakes had been made, we can correct those mistakes as they are starting to be implemented.

I wish to point out some of the salutary things that are happening under the new health care reform bill with regard to Medicaid. It was just this week that the agency that runs Medicare, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS, announced that more seniors and people with disabilities on Medicare are seeing significantly lower costs for important health care because of this new law.

For example, what we are seeing for the first time is that millions of Americans on Medicare are now getting free physical exams as part of their preventive medicine. Because of the doughnut hole, which is that complicated black hole senior citizens would fall into when they were getting assistance for their prescription drugs, well, lo and behold, that doughnut hole is being filled by the Federal Government assisting them in paying for those drugs. Therefore, they are getting a lot more of their drugs without having to pay for them.

For example, Nationwide has over 2.5 million people on Medicare who have saved more than \$1.5 billion on their prescriptions. If we boil that down to my State of Florida, we have 172,000 Medicare recipients who save \$96 million, which is an average for the senior citizen in Florida of \$563 per person per year.

In the case of physical exams, we have over 24 million people in the country who now have taken advantage of having one of these free physical exams in order to help with the preventive health care aspects that the bill was aimed at. In my State, where there are a lot of senior citizens, close to 2 million senior citizens have taken advantage of those physical exams.

Remember how we were discussing the doom and gloom of Medicare Advantage? What has happened to Medicare Advantage? We had to change it because Medicare Advantage before, under the previous law, had a 14-percent bump over and above Medicare fee-for-service. The Federal Government was going to go broke if we did